

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

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## St. Teresa of Ávila

“To have courage for whatever comes in life - everything lies in that.”



## Parish Staff & Organizations

**Pastor:** Fr. Stefano Lee

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Taek-Jong (TJ)  
Maximus Han

**Parish Secretary:** Claire Rouleau

**Business Administrator:** David Agnew

**Custodian:**

**Baptism Preparation Team:**

**CWL President:**

**Lector Co-ordinator:** Claire Rouleau

**Eucharistic Minister Co-ordinator:**  
Kim Voelzing

**Adoration Chapel Co-ordinators:**  
Herb Altman – 519-893-4793  
Rosemary Mussar – 519-743-5656

**Finance Council Chair:**  
Don Pickett, Jr.

**Pastoral Council Chair:**  
Barbara Daly

**St. Vincent de Paul:**  
Bernie & Rosemary Pickett  
519-749-1501

## St. Teresa School

Principal: Mr. Chris Luciani  
Secretary: Connie Rawski  
519-743-2131

### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday – Office Closed**

### Saturday Liturgy:

9:00 a.m. (except in August)  
5:00 p.m.

### Weekday Schedule

Please check inside for  
weekly schedule

### Sunday Liturgy:

10:00 a.m.

**Confession:** 30 min. before Mass; Sat., 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.  
No Sunday Confession

**Parish Priest - In cases of Emergency** – If you have an emergency and are unable to reach someone in the parish office and urgently need a priest, please call Father Stefano at 647-960-4078 (cell phone).

**Adoration and Mass:** First Friday of each month  
Adoration – 6:00 p.m.; Mass – 7:00 p.m.



## The Nativity of the Lord

There are four Masses that are celebrated for the feast of Christmas, and each is given its own set of readings to help us contemplate Christ's birth. The Gospel for the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve (Mt 1:1-25); the Mass at midnight (*Lk 2:1-14*); Luke 2:15-20 is the reading for the Mass at dawn on Christmas morning. Finally, the Gospel for Christmas Mass during the day is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel (J 1:1-18). It is not an Infancy Narrative like those found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Instead, John's Gospel starts at the very beginning of time and presents Creation as the framework for announcing the Incarnation. John's opening words echo the first verse in the Book of Genesis, "**In the beginning was the Word.**"

The story of Jesus' birth (Lk 2:10-20), which begins with a reference to Caesar Augustus, concludes with the shepherds, people looked down on by most of society, visiting the infant. As the angels return to heaven, the shepherds decide to go see "this thing" that has happened in Bethlehem. Their visit confirms everything the angels had told them about the birth of the Savior and Messiah. They then spoke publicly about all they had seen, to the great astonishment of all who heard. **Mary ponders all this in her heart, and the shepherds return to their fields praising God. What had been told to them really happened.**

The Bethlehem story, of course, was told during Midnight Mass. But today we are, as it were, going behind the scenes, and looking at the deeper meaning of that story. After all, who is that little baby, so small, so helpless? And why do we make such a fuss about his birth? **He is the Word of God.** From the beginning **He was with God and WAS God.** Think of those extraordinary words as you gaze at the crib.

### Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar

December 25 – **Christmas Day (The Nativity of the Lord)**  
December 26 – Chancery Staff  
December 27 – Congregation of the Sisters of St. Anne (s.s.a.)  
December 28 – **The Holy Innocents**  
December 29 – Rev. Edward Hinsperger  
December 30 – Rev. Phillip Cook  
December 31 – **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

### Mass Intentions

December 25, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Monday, December 25, 2023 – **10:00 a.m.**

***The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)***  
+ **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

Tuesday, December 26, 2023 – **7:00 p.m.**

+ **Ed Forwell** – *Betty Jane Forwell & Family*

Wednesday, December 27, 2023 – **8:30 a.m.**

+ **Frank & Rose Lehmann** – *Lehmann Family*

Thursday, December 28, 2023 – **8:30 a.m.**

***The Holy Innocents, Martyrs***

+ **Delmar Ferreira** – *Citelia Ferreira*

Friday, December 29, 2023 – **8:30 a.m.**

+ **Intentions of Edward Dutka** – *Buckle Family*

Saturday, December 30, 2023 –

**9:00 a.m.** – + **Gil Lemieux** – *Stella Lemieux & Family*

**5:00 p.m.** – + **Intentions of Charlotte Miciula & Family**  
– *Grandparents*

Sunday, December 31, 2023 –

***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

**10:00 a.m.** – **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish.**

***Eve of the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God***

**5: p.m.** – **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish.**

### Vocations

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24, 2023**

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!"...and so the Saviour came into the world.

Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world.

#### **Nativity of the Lord - December 25, 2023**

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon.

If God is calling you, call **Fr. Mark Morley**, Director of

Vocations at

905-528-7988; [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

### WISDOM OF THE SAINTS

"God's love for us is not greater in heaven than it is now."

– *St. Thomas Aquinas*

"Let us be rooted and grounded in charity so that we may comprehend what is the length of eternity, the breadth of liberality, the height of majesty and the depth of discerning wisdom."

– *St. Bonaventure*

# **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **Parish Bulletin Schedule**

Please note that there will be no parish bulletin next weekend. Mass intentions for the week of December 31<sup>st</sup> to January 7<sup>th</sup> will be posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church. The regular bulletin schedule will resume in the New Year on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **Flower Donations**

Flower donation envelopes are at the back of the church. Any donation towards the cost of the flowers in the sanctuary would be greatly appreciated!!

## **Parish Calendars**

Parish Calendars are now available for purchase. They are \$15 each and can be purchased through the parish office.

### **Stewardship Report – December 10, 2023**

Sunday Offerings .....	\$ 2753.25
Votive Candles .....	\$ 29.05
Flowers .....	\$ 235.00
Christmas Cards & Calendars .....	\$ 375.00

**We are most appreciative of your ongoing prayerful and financial support.**

**Donations to the parish can be made through the use of Sunday Offertory envelopes, Pre-Authorized Giving, CanadaHelps and Interac e-Transfer.**

**Pre-Authorized Giving** - A digital copy of the form can be found on our parish website or call the parish office. Simply print the form, complete it and return it to the Parish Office.

**E-Transfer** – To donate through E-Transfer, please use the following email account:

**[stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com)**

**CanadaHelps** - To support our parish via **credit card** or **PayPal** please visit **canadahelps.org** You can access our parish directly by following this link:

**<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450RR0053-st-teresas-parish/>**

Please note that donations made through the CanadaHelps website, will receive a tax receipt directly from CanadaHelps, via email. If you require any further information, please contact the parish office.

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

May God bless you  
during this joyful season!



## **Christmas Schedule St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Kitchener**

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Saturday, December 23, 2023 – Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

### **Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Octave of Christmas – Weekday Schedule**

### **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Saturday, December 30, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 31, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 31, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Saturday, January 6, 2024 – Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 7, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

